GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1493
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2000
IMPORT EXPORT OF COAL BY CIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES
BHAWANA GAWALI (PATIL);PUNNULAL MOHALE;RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of different varieties of coal exported by the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries during each of the last three years and the current year, State- wise;

(b) the profit earned in foreign exchange or loss incurred by such export;

(c) the quantity and value of coal imported during the said period indicating the names of the countries from which it has been imported;

(d) whether imported coal contains sulphur and produces less ash;

(e) if so, the facts in this regard;

(f) whether the Government have conducted any study to find out its ill-effects on environment; (g) if so, the outcome thereof; (h) if not, the reasons therefor; and (i) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the import of coal?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (N.T.SHANMUGAM)
(a) State-wise quantity of coal exported by the Coal India Limited during the last three years is given below:

(`000 tonnes)

Year	West Bengal	Bihar	Total
1997-98	54.83	0.97	55.80
1998-99	36.34	7.72	44.06
1999-2000	64.54	0.92	65.46
Apr-Oct'2000	42.72	NIL	42.72

(b) The export of coal to Nepal and Bhutan is being made in Indian currency as per bilateral agreements entered into between the countries whereas export to Bangladesh is made in US $ Exchange.

Year	Profit	
	Nepal and Bhutan	Bangladesh
1997-98	Rs. 1.5 Crores	0.59 Lakh US $
1998-99	Rs. 0.32 Crores	
1999-2000	Rs. 0.65 Crores	

During the last three years, only in 1997-98, coal was exported to Bangladesh.
(c) The quantity and value of coal imported into the country during the last three years are as under:

Year	Total Import (in million tonnes)	Value in Rs. Crores (Approx.)
1997-98	17.21	4422.30
1998-99	15.64	3640.20
1999-2000	17.50 (Provisional)	Not available

Coal is imported from Australia, Indonesia, South Africa, China etc.
(d)to (h): Ministry of coal doesnot monitor import of coal. Neither Coal India Limited nor Ministryof Coal have data on coal imports such as origin, quantity, ash content, characteristic, price, payment term etc. However, it is reported that imported coal is of superior grade and low ash content.

(i) Coal is under Open General Licence(OGL)Import of coal is resorted to by the consumers themselves because the present level of custom duty and railway freight structure make such imports cost competitive per unit of calorific value on certain locations. However

Government has increased the basic import duty on non- coking coal from 15% to 25%,in the current year.